WHARFEDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1941.

LIBRARY

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my Report for the year ended 31st December 1941.

In the interests of National security, and in accordance with Circular 2604 issued by the Ministry of Health in March 1942, complete tables of population figures are not published, and no reference is made of War time industrial, military or other important developments, such as extensions of water supply or sewerage works.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	40	34	74
Illegitimate	1	2	3
Total	41	36	77
Still Births.			
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	1	-	1

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	-	1	1
Total	2	2	4

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	51.94
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	40.54
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 illegitmate live births	333.33

DEATHS.

Males.	Females.	Total.
31	21	52

Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's Short List) :-

No. 29 Puerperal & Post Abortional Sepsis	0
No. 30 Other maternal causes	0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	4
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR, 1941.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Diphtheria	1	1	-
Scarlet Fever	6	6	-
Pneumonia	9	5	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	2	-
Measles	90	4	1
Whooping Cough	25	-	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever	3	3	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-
Erysipelas	1	1	-

	AGE GROUPS.						
	1 2	2 5	5 15	15 25	25 45	45 65	Over 65
Diphtheria				1			
Scarlet Fever		1	5				
Pneumonia	1	2	3		2	1	
Puerperal Pyrexia				2	3		
Measles	11	30	45	2	1	1	
Whooping Cough	4	18	3				
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1			1		1	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1						
Erysipelas							1

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING, 1941.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1 - 2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
2 - 5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 45	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

DEATHS.

No. 4	Whooping Cough	1
No. 6	Respiratory Tuberculosis	5
No. 9	Influenza	1
No.10	Measles	1
No.15	Cancer of breast	1
No.16	Cancer of other sites	3
No.18	Intracranial Vascular lesions	9
No.19	Heart disease	12
No.21	Bronchitis	4
No.22	Pneumonia	3
No.27	Digestive Disorders	3
No.28	Nephritis	1
No.31	Premature Birth	1
No.34	Road Traffic Accidents	3
No.35	Other violent causes	1
No.36	All other causes	3
		52

I am pleased to state that there has been no abnormal increase of epidemic disease. The births and deaths conform to the average for the preceding years. This very abbreviated Report does not permit a description in detail of the Sanitary Administrative or special War work fulfilled by your Officers.

Though much time has had to be spent on A.R.P., salvage, fuel and the reception of evacuees, the inspection of houses and farms has been systematically carried out, and the bulk of the nuisances discovered satisfactorily rectified.

The Sanitary Inspector's Report follows.

I desire to tender my cordial thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council, to the Clerk, Sanitary Inspector and other Members of the Staff, for their invaluable co-operation throughout the year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. WOLFE M.D.,B.S.,D.P.H.,

September, 1942.

WHARFEDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Rural Council Offices,
Boroughgate,
Otley.
September, 1942.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I beg to submit an abbreviated Report on the work carried out in my department during the year ended 31st December, 1941.

This is the sixteenth Annual Report I have had the honour of presenting and my third during the War period.

Since the War commenced my duties have very greatly increased by reason of Fuel Control, Salvage, A.R.P. and other War time requirements, and it becomes increasingly difficult to carry out all my public health work, especially so in view of the heavy restrictions on petrol and the consequent cutting down of journeys.

In spite of these handicaps and additional duties, I have endeavoured to fulfil all my obligations and I feel that I have reason to be fairly satisfied.

Considerable difficulty has been experienced in obtaining labour and materials for various works required under the Public Health and Housing Acts, but most of the repairs etc. have eventually been carried out, and it has not been necessary to resort to legal proceedings in any instance.

Apart from the erection of two houses at Bramhope for agricultural workers there has not been any building development during the year. These two houses were approved by the Ministry of Health just before the outbreak of War.

The year commenced with 4 outstanding nuisances and these, together with a further 215, have been remedied during the year. At the close of 1941 there were 9 nuisances still requiring attention.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

All premises have been regularly inspected and it has not been necessary to report unsatisfactorily in any instance.

During the year an additional Factory has been added to the Register and at another, alterations and improvements have been effected.

I have not received any adverse reports from H.M. Inspector of Factories, nor have there been any nuisances caused by the emission of black smoke.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES ETC.

The number of licensed slaughterhouses is as follows:-

Bramhope	1
Pool	1
Langbar	2
Norwood	1

which is the same as in previous years.

Owing to Government restrictions only the slaughter of pigs for home consumption, or the urgent slaughter of animals due to accidents, has been carried out.

The following table shews the number of animals slaughtered and inspected:-

	Slaughtered.	Inspected.
Pigs	125	104
Sheep	2	2
Beasts	2	2

One carcase of a beast was destroyed owing to its advanced stage of Tuberculosis and, in my opinion, the other carcase was also unsatisfactory, but this was brought to the Otley Slaughterhouse for final examination.

New premises have been erected and licensed at Bramhope for the preparation of cooked meats etc. and these are regularly inspected and have always been found in a clean and satisfactory condition.

WATER SUPPLIES, ETC.

Six samples of water have been taken for bacteriological examination and the reports thereon are as follows:-

	Number.	Result.
Stream at High Badger Gate, Timble.	1	Satisfactory.
Stream at Black House Farm, Clifton.	2	Satisfactory.
ditto	1	Not satisfactory.
Denton Hall, Denton.	2	Satisfactory.

The sample from the stream at Timble was taken with a view to augmenting the existing supply, but as this has so far proved quite adequate, no further action has been taken.

The samples from the streams at Clifton were taken for the purpose of obtaining an alternative water supply for the Village, but, for the time being, the matter is left in abeyance.

At the request of the County Medical Officer of Health two samples of water were taken from Denton Hall, and these proved to be quite satisfactory.

During the year under review, the filter at Wilkinson's Reservoir, which serves property at the low end of the parish of Newall-w-Clifton, has been cleaned out and fresh sand provided and, in addition, 80 yards of 4" pipes have been laid to convey the water from the Springs direct to the filter.

There has not been any extension to water mains in any other parish.

SEWERAGE ETC.

The Sewage Works provided during 1940 for the Village of Askwith have now been in use for about eighteen months and have worked very efficiently. At the end of 1941 practically the whole of the drains serving property in the Village were connected thereto.

The Sewageworks at Pool are fairly efficient in view of the large quantity of sewage and storm water which has to be dealt with, but I feel that additional filter beds would be a great acquisition as the existing beds could then be periodically rested and root crops grown.

The Bramhope Works are always at full pressure, but when it is realized that they were only provided for the Lawsons' Estate and that since the Council took them over about 18 additional houses have been connected, this is only to be expected. Regular attention has consequently to be given to the cleaning of the screening materials and humus tanks.

The following length of Sewer has been laid during the year:-

Askwith	70 yards 6" earthenware pipes.

MILK & DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

During the year I have carried out 235 inspections of Farm premises and conditions, generally, have been satisfactory.

As in 1940 several farms, previously used for cattle rearing, have gone over to milk production, and I feel that Wharfedale is certainly doing its share to assist the Government in their call for more milk.

The number of "Accredited" milk licences issued is 55 and the number of "Tuberculin Tested" licences is 2. There has not, in either instance, been any change.

During the year 117 samples of milk have been taken, 106 of which were satisfactory and 11 not satisfactory, and this proportion is a considerable improvement on 1940.

In view of the shortage of labour and materials, it will be appreciated that major alterations to farm premises are very restricted, but in spite of these War time difficulties, the following premises have been renovated:-

1. Maud Lane Farm, Norwood.
2. Cooper House Farm, Norwood.
3. Dob Park Farm, Weston.
4. Watling Street Farm, Fewston.

AMBULANCE SERVICES.

During the year the calls on the Ambulance presented to the Council in 1940 by Messrs. B.S. & W. Whiteley Ltd. have considerably increased and I am sure the residents in Wharfedale appreciate this additional service.

Altogether 66 journeys have been made, and the total distance travelled is 1,316 miles.

NUISANCES ABATED.

Nuisances caused by decomposing carcases	3
Privies abolished	3
W.C's. provided in lieu of privies	2
Elsan closets provided in lieu of pails or privies ...	3
Additional W.C's. provided to existing property	19
W.C's. provided to new property	2
Dustbins provided to new property	2
W.C's. repaired or renewed	3
Obstructions removed from sewers	8
Defective drains relaid or new drains provided	38
Obstructions removed from drains	4
New inspection covers provided in lieu of broken or defective ones	2
Inspection chambers repaired	2
Septic Tanks repaired or cleaned	2
Nuisances caused by discharge of sewage onto land ...	4
Nuisances caused by pollution of streams with sewage ...	4
Nuisances caused by overflowing cesspools	1
Sewageworks repaired, extended or cleaned	5
Refuse tip nuisances	3
Storm water drains repaired	2
Overflowing becks repaired	2
Houses provided with fresh supply of water as a result of existing supply being inadequate or polluted ...	1
Defective, obstructed or burst water mains and services repaired	12
Water well covers raised to prevent pollution	2
Reservoir filters cleaned etc.	1
Soil pipes repaired	1
Defective or dangerous chimney stacks repaired	8
Rain water pipes repaired	6
Eaves guttering repaired	7
Defective sinks repaired or renewed	2
Defective cooking ranges or firegrates repaired or renewed	4
New washing boilers provided	1
House or bedroom floors repaired or relaid	10
Houses provided with additional light and ventilation ...	2
House windows repaired	10
House doors repaired or renewed	1
External house walls repointed or repaired	10
Internal house walls replastered or repaired	10
House or bedroom ceilings replastered or repaired ...	2
House roofs repaired	13
House paths and yards re-surfaced or repaired	1
House stairs renewed or repaired	1

INSPECTIONS.

Farms	235
Public Health	233
Housing	116
Drains	96
Sewers	56
Sewageworks	70
Schools	48
Slaughterhouses	35
Factories	17
Houses disinfected	9

NOTICES SERVED.

Milk and Dairies Order.

Notices requiring limewashing	257
Notices re Breach of Regulations	4
Notices re clean methods of production	264
Informal Notices and letters	6

Public Health Act, 1936.

Section 138	1
Section 93	4
Section 39	5
Informal Notices and letters	59

Housing Act, 1936.

Section 9	7
Informal Notices and letters	17

The collection of waste paper, scrap metal and other salvage has continued throughout the year and the result has been very satisfactory.

I have received very valuable help from the W.V.S., Salvage Stewards, Boy Scouts and Girl Guides.

The work of Civil Defence has taken up a considerable amount of time - in this branch of service we are fortunate in that we have a good team of volunteers who are very efficient.

Notwithstanding the difficulties due to the National Emergency, much useful work has been done and the health of the district and sanitary conditions are good.

I thank the Chairman of the Council (County Councillor R.T.A.Renton J.P.) the Chairman of the Public Health Committee (Councillor Wm. Whiteley), Members of the Council, our Clerk (Mr. Wade), Assistant Clerk (Mr. Light) and Dr. Wolfe (our Medical Officer of Health), for their help and co-operation.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

A. Ashworth.
Cert.R.S.I.,M.S.I.A.,